

## OPEN HYPERMEDIA MODEL

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*\*Claimed as trademark(s).*

### SUMMARY

Open hypermedia publishing is the manifest destiny of literature; freedom and the shape of society may be decided by what designs emerge in the on-line community. So far the emerging electronic documents (such as email and closed CD-ROM hypertexts) are too simple and limited, and attempt to generalize by means of special cases. We seek an extensible pluralism that may be generalized to an entire literary universe.

This paper considers a scheme for connected documents, desktop and worldwide. It models a generalized virtual document structure for detailed interconnection between arbitrary documents and data structures which can be accreted into an entire hypermedia universe. It is open to linkage among documents by all (open hypermedia publishing) and offers a possible solution to the copyright problem. Note that this model is not tied to any proprietary technology. The purpose is to make it possible for anyone to create a document which couples in detail with any other document or object following this model. In principle, this could create an entire documentary universe.

This is a pluralistic, or literary, model. (Literature has always been the pluralistic repository of different views.) It requires generalized and stably-connected addressing, not just of separate documents, but of the documents' internal parts.

In order to have bivable links (seen from both originating and target document), each document must have a search space not owned by the document, in which the remote ends of uninvited links may be co-scanned. (How this will be paid for is an important question.)

Such an open hypermedia docuverse offers a copyright solution through transpublication (the logical inclusion of parts of another document, to be bought from that other publisher by the reader at the instant of need).